

CYRUS P. GROSVENOR, Editor.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16. 1841.

Great God, before he takes him away and places him where he will feel the wrath of that God which burns even to the lowest hell. M. W.

Home Mission Report.

We extract the following from the Ninth Report of the Ex. Committee of the Home Mission Society, presented at the Anniversary at Baltimore, April 27, 1841.

MAINE CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Second Wednesday after the fourth Wednesday in September, at Hallowell.

Rev. Adam Wilson, Bangor, President.
Thomas O. Lincoln, Portland, Secretary.
Byron Greenough, Treasurer.

The prospects before this auxiliary at its last anniversary, were of a more encouraging nature than had been for several years. Alluding to the liberality of a considerable extent, they had become re-assured. "We may now assume again our former position among the benevolent organizations of the day; we may go up and possess the land." It is an important, valuable land, worth all the effort requisite to "go up and possess it."

They had prospects at the commencement of the year, of the services of two Missionary Agents, but the domestic affliction and other circumstances prevented the persons appointed from accomplishing their designs.

Receipts for Domestic Missions, \$342.40.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Tuesday before the Third Wednesday in October, place not determined.

Rev. Mark Carpenter, Keene, President.
Andrew T. Fox, Nashua, Secretary.
John A. Gault, Concord, Treasurer.

Auxiliary, that they have experienced some pecuniary embarrassment in past years from which they turn of prosperity awaits them.

Through their recent circumstances have, for a Home Missions, they now announce their readiness to listen to applications for their readiness.

They have under their superintendence, the Institution at New Hampton, the moral, religious, and scientific institution of which has been so extensively and profitably labored in our country.

There has been a revival of religion in the Institution, each term of the year. 76 have been baptized, and united with God, and it needs and deserves pecuniary assistance.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$133.12.

VERMONT CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Second Wednesday in October, at Poulin.

Rev. Daniel Parker, Mont Holly, President.
C. A. Thomas, Brattleboro, Secretary.
Willard Kimball, Treasurer.

This useful body has, during the past year, discharged its usual life and energy. Six missionaries four of them in the field nearly the whole year.

One of them in his report says, "that since the previous meeting of the Convention, he has attended eleven protracted meetings, and since that time, about 200 have been baptized."

Receipts for Home Missions, \$192.97.

MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Thursday after the last Wednesday in May, Boston.

Rev. Charles Train, Framingham, Secretary.
Rev. Charles Train, Framingham, Secretary.
William D. Ticknor, Boston, Treasurer.

The Convention of Massachusetts being a continuation of the "Missionary Society" of that State, previous to its present organization, "the voice of England," was heard in various parts of New England, and the Western States, and the British every section, its operations are, at present, limited to the "Old Bay State." This presents a somewhat extensive field, to require a much larger amount of funds than has yet been at the disposal of the Convention.

The last was the Thirty-eighth Anniversary of work of Home Missions is dear to them. Fifteen years ending at that time, and the Secretary, in addition to his numerous duties as such, had performed a great amount of Missionary labor.

A systematic plan appears to be projected here, Secretary will, probably, soon render this one of the most efficient Missionary bodies in the land.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$301.83.

RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Second Wednesday in April, 1842, Providence.

Rev. R. E. Pattison, Providence, President.
John Dowling, Secretary.
Y. G. Bates, Treasurer.

As its anniversary is held only a few days previous to ours, we are unable to present the state of religion in the body; but from private sources we learn that the missionary spirit is advancing rapidly.

Receipts for Home Missions, as reported in 1840, \$198.47.

Communicated by the Secretary, reported 1841, \$106.61.

CONNECTICUT CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Tuesday preceding the 2d Wednesday in June, at Hartford.

George Reed, Esq. Deep River, President.
Rev. Henry Wood, Cor. Secretary.
Joseph B. Gilbert, Esq. Hartford, Treasurer.

The Connecticut Convention is active and efficient. It formerly comprised a considerable amount annually for domestic missions within ever, seems, of late, to have been overlooked in the amount of funds.

No agent or itinerant missionary has been employed during the past year. The funds voluntarily contributed to the treasury have been distributed among nineteen feeble churches.

From the tenor of several resolutions passed at the last anniversary; there is ground to hope that the domestic missionary spirit is ready to revive among them.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, third Wednesday in October, at Whitesboro.

Rev. Elon Galusha, Whitesboro, President.
John Smith, Fayetteville, Secretary.
Charles Babcock, Esq. New-Hamilton, Treasurer.

From the facts that the Board entered upon the labor of the year with a single agent; and a year, the receipts into the treasury were less than those of former years. Still they have been able to present a donation to the American Baptist Home Mission Society of \$4000, including the amount paid from this state directly into its treasury.

During the year 103 churches are wholly or partially supplied with preaching and pastoral labor. The destitute, making the entire amount of labor and itinerant service performed, including that of the General Agent, equal to the labor of one man and a half years and three-quarters, and exceeding by nine and a half years the labor of any previous year. This was exclusive of the efforts in behalf of the Indian tribes within their efforts in behalf of the Indian tribes.

In the performance of these labors, more than 16000 sermons have been preached; 22,000 families have been religiously visited; 4,928 pupils have been instructed in Sunday Schools and Bible Classes.

The Baptist denomination in New-York are considered strong; and some, in accounting for it, lay much stress upon their number of communicants, and 21 Missionaries were sustained, whose labors

which is now about 80,000. This fact, while it unquestionably contributes to their strength, is not usually minded and liberal people, and their benevolent organizations are conducted with system, large amount of money in evangelizing their own territory: and while one result has been greater accessions to their number, another is, those accessions have been found to be deeply imbued with the same evangelical spirit. In this lies their strength. They have learned that ability in the gospel abroad is acquired by first doing that duty at home.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$11,235.21.

NEW-JERSEY CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Wednesday Nov. 3d, 1841, at New Brunswick.

Rev. G. S. Webb, New Brunswick, President.
C. W. Mulford, Hightstown, Secretary.
P. P. Runyon, Esq. New Brunswick, Treasurer.

The operations of the Board for the last year have been conducted on the same principle, and with the same objects in view, as in former years. The feeble churches and destitute places within the state foreign character have not been forgotten. Seven or eight parts, and 16 churches and destitute places have been aided. The whole amount of ministerial labors has been equal to 14 years of one man, and has resulted in the baptism of 197 persons, who were hopefully converted to Christ, besides many other spiritual blessings.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$187.88.

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, fourth Wednesday in October, at Philadelphia, Centre county.

J. M. Linnard, Philadelphia, President.
Rev. William Shadrach, " Secretary.
J. C. Davis, " Treasurer.

But four years have passed since the organization of this Association, yet a great amount of good has been accomplished, and our friends are encouraged. Fourteen years and four months is the aggregate of service performed by the missionaries of this body. About 3715 sermons, have been preached, and 224 baptisms administered; several churches have been organized; tracts and bibles have been distributed; and much bread has been cast upon the waters, the harvest of which they hope hereafter to reap.

The Board regard it as worthy of distinct and grateful record, that some churches which were at the commencement of the year, so weak that their very existence was doubtful, have, by the blessing of God upon the timely visitations of their missionaries, emerged from the gloom which surrounded them. They are now firmly established, and are able to sustain the ministry without further aid from the Convention.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$2,166.86.

MARYLAND UNION ASSOCIATION.

Next Anniversary, Thursday before 4th Sunday in October, at Washington, D. C.

Rev. George F. Adams, Baltimore, Moderator.
Charles D. Slingluff, Clerk.

This year, the Executive Board, instead of having been the case heretofore, to report but service of suitable missionaries, have the satisfaction, that they have not labored in vain, nor spent their strength for naught. A general agent has been employed a portion of the year, and would have continued through the whole of it but for ill health. Missionaries also have been, with little interruption, constantly engaged in carrying the Gospel to the needy of that state, and have baptized 147 persons on a profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

Receipts, \$919.83.

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSOCIATION.

Next Anniversary, Saturday before the 1st Lord's day in June, at Charlottesville.

Rev. James B. Taylor, Richmond, President.
Wm. Sands, Cor. Secretary.
George Phipps, Jr., Treasurer.

The Annual Report of this important body did not reach us until too late a period to publish in our issue of the past year. The Secretary reports that the Convention of the past year for Home Missions, exclusive of the amount paid into our treasury, to be \$5,600.00.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Saturday before Second Sunday in December, at Society Hill.

Rev. William B. Johnson, Edgefield, President.
James Du Ross, Secretary.
Alexander L. Lawton, Treasurer.

The efforts of this important body are applied to all those great and benevolent objects, which are dear to the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ. No amount of wisdom and prudence to guide their councils, and success to attend their works. The success of the Convention is the offspring of their benevolence, and has already proved itself worthy of the fostering care. As a Classical and Theological School, it cannot fail to much in elevating the character and extending the influence of the denomination in the state.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$349.02.

GEORGIA CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Friday before the Third Sunday in May, at Thomaston, Upson County.

Rev. Jesse Mercer, Washington, Moderator.
John E. Hanson, Madison, Clerk.
Abraham James, Penfield, Treasurer.

Our brethren of this important auxiliary have in religious interests of their state, and they have not hesitated to enter upon the work of evangelizing, which have long distinguished them. The Mercer University, and a Female Academy, were founded by them, and are liberally endowed; they have provided a generous fund, from which two or three young men are now receiving an education; and they have laid the foundation for supplying the land with the great liberality of brother Mercer, they are in possession of an excellent printing establishment; and every object of christian benevolence, domestic and foreign, meets their ready and cheerful support.

During the past year, three missionaries were in their employment, who performed much valuable service in destitute parts of the state.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$1403.05.

LOUISIANA CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Friday before the Second Sunday in October, at Lebanon, New Orleans.

Rev. R. B. Howell, Nashville, President.
Dr. S. G. Morton, Concord, Secretary.
The Tennessee Convention has three Auxiliaries to which the Associations and churches in the different parts of the state, are, in like manner, auxiliaries. Impediments in the way of enlarged operations are found to exist in certain prejudices against some of the provisions of the present Convention, and in the different views entertained by the churches upon the subject of missions. Incipient matters appear, however, to have been made, and it is hoped that by another year, the body will be prepared to move forward in their full strength. Considering these circumstances, much energy has been displayed. Last year, a General Agent and 21 Missionaries were sustained, whose labors

Receipts for Home Missions, \$494.30.

CHRISTIAN REFLECTOR.

in the good cause give cheering evidence of devotion and success.

The agent, though prevented by indisposition during the last month of his appointment from visiting, travelled 3,840 miles, preached 366 sermons, and attended 15 protracted meetings, and two camps meetings, \$141.58.

KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSOCIATION.

Next Anniversary, Saturday before Third Sunday in October, Russellville.

Rev. William C. Buck, Louisville, President.
F. A. Willard, " Cor. Secretary.
Samuel Haycraft, Elizabethtown, Treasurer.

In Kentucky there are more than 60,000 Baptists of various denominations, in the state. They are mostly people; and yet Kentucky is decidedly a missionary ground. Originating from Virginia and where they had suffered the persecuting spirit of that establishment, the early settlers of Kentucky commenced their career with deep rooted antipathies against the salaried clergy on whose account they had suffered, but which insensibly led them to their own churches; till, as a natural consequence, those ministers driven to secular employment, were not to be found to fill the sacred office. Spiritual prosperity in the churches tended to all the greater proportion of those churches, amounting to more than 700, are supplied with preaching, at least once a month; and many have no stated efficient ministers to supply them; and that but 11 of those churches are supplied with stated pastors.

The brethren have begun to be sensible of this alarming state of things, to weep over it, and, as the means, the General Association was formed as one of the cause of Jesus Christ in Kentucky. With a plan of operations which they have vigorously prosecuted for the future, but has already produced the most encouraging results. About 30,000 have been since then added to the churches by baptism, not less than 10,000 of which number, it is believed, thus far on Christ during the past year.

Receipts, \$326.23.

MISSOURI.

Next Anniversary, Saturday before the Fifth Sunday in October, at Pleasant Grove Church, Perry County.

John Kneeland, Moderator.
A. Hogard, Clerk.

This Association was organized last November, in order that the friends of missions might cooperate with each other in peace. They have an Executive Committee, whose business is to devise measures adapted to the promotion of the gospel in that region.

ILLINOIS CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, First Thursday in October, at Payson, Adams County.

Rev. James Lemen, President.
John M. Beck, Rock Spring, Cor. Secretary.
Elias Hibbard, Upper Allen, Treasurer.

This is an energetic and useful auxiliary. Recognition, and the cause of religion generally, have followed the persevering execution of their plan.

During the past year, 14 missionaries and one agent were entirely or in part sustained by them; they have performed upwards of 20,000 miles of labor; they have travelled about 20,000 miles, preached about 2,100 sermons, besides a large number of lectures, addresses, &c.; baptized 300 converts, and reported 200 more by other ministers constituting 20 churches, &c. &c.

Voluntary missionary service has been performed also by the members of the Convention to the amount of nearly five and a half years, and at a cost to themselves of \$2,000.

The cause of ministerial education is dear to them also. Shurtleff College which is under the patronage, presides itself a rich blessing to the ministry of that region; and a number of rising agents for religious and literary purposes, and the advancement of this western auxiliary in all those respects which contribute to the production of social happiness, national greatness, and the declarative labor, \$21,606.73.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION.

Next Anniversary, First Wednesday in June, at Plainfield.

Rev. A. B. Hubbard, Chairman.
I. T. Hinton, Chicago, Secretary.
L. D. Boone, Treasurer.

This Association, occupying the northern part of Illinois, is too distant from the seat of the Board of Christianity, to participate easily in the deliberations of that body; and being near the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa, they have a field before them which they can cultivate with more advantage.

They have, thus far, showed a laudable zeal in the promotion of benevolent objects, and contemplate a union with the churches in the territories for missionary and kindred purposes.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$35.61.

OHIO CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in May, at Columbus.

Rev. L. D. Barker, McConneville, President.
J. B. Whelan, Cincinnati, Secretary.
J. B. Whelan, Treasurer.

The attention of this body has been directed towards establishing the importance of the importance of villages and cities. A plan for the promotion of this object has been arranged and acted on for a few years, and the benefits now appear much to their credit. Churches now exist, and are supplied with able ministers in many of the most important places in the state. Fourteen villages mission have been labored during the past year performed in various other places. They have baptized 211 persons, and established ten new Sunday schools, and six Bible classes.

Other kindred objects receive a full share of attention, and in a flourishing condition, and his qualified ministers of the gospel.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$1,769.72.

MICHIGAN CONVENTION.

Next Anniversary, First Wednesday in October, at Edwardsburg.

Rev. Joseph Elliott, Pontiac, President.
J. M. Mitchell, Saline, Cor. Secretary.
R. C. Smith, Detroit, Treasurer.

The Board of Managers lament the depressed condition in which they were placed the last year in consequence of the pecuniary embarrassments which prevailed in the country. They had not been justified in attempting to obtain an agent, and their collections had been insufficient to allow necessities of the feeble churches and new settlements of the state. They speak with new encouragement respecting the future, however, and it is believed that, at this time, they are in a more prosperous condition, an agent being in successful operation among them.

Receipts for Home Missions, \$494.30.

SUMMARY OF MISSIONARY LABORS.

From the foregoing table and statements it will be seen that the whole number of agents and missionaries who received their commissions directly from the Executive Committee the past year, is 52. These have labored in 20 of the United States and Territories, in Canada and Texas. They have occupied not less than 300 stations; preached at least 10,922 sermons; and in the performance of these duties have travelled 73,451 miles.

The aggregate of ministerial labor performed by them is that of one man for 45 years.

Besides the above, the reports of the missionaries in protracted meetings for moral improvement; or aiding societies for various benevolent purposes.

The number of agents and missionaries reported by the auxiliaries is 233, whose joint labors amount to 98 years for one man. They have preached 16,000 sermons; made 22,000 pastoral visits and travelled 34,328 miles. Total 315 agents and missionaries; 143 years labor; 26,922 sermons; and 107,770 miles travelled.

In summing up the above amount of labor it is proper to say, that although persevering efforts have been made to obtain correct reports of the various items of information from all sources, so numerous have been the difficulties of communicating with the auxiliaries, that the returns now presented are far from being complete. Much labor is known to have been performed, which is not mentioned in this report, only because official information has not been forwarded to us. No report has reached us from Mississippi, nor Virginia, where, especially in the latter auxiliary, a great amount of labor is always bestowed.

From the New York Observer.

Bulwer's Works.

The popularity of the above works, and their dangerous tendencies, demand of every lover of good morals, and especially of every Christian, an effort to guard the public mind against their corrupting influence. If you will allow one in offered for sale by a professing Christian, to make a few extracts from an able review of the doing something to remove the evil. These extracts are taken from the Literary and Theological Review, published in your city. The fault of Bulwer is his predilection for elegant prose; but this is not unusual. He values his style too highly to risk it against such a mandate by giving utterance to a sentiment, or point to an incident which might inevitably put apology save that the language is refined."

"The Review also states, 'There is but one of his novels free from a series of studied efforts to cast virtue into the shade, and to embellish vice with all the charms of approval and success. Throughout the most of Bulwer's works there is a scattering train of immorality, (already referred to) the train being thick or thin according to circumstances.' Of one of his works it is added, 'It is impossible, and it is unnecessary, to be coolly argumentative on such a work. That work, to the shame of its publishers—and its vileness—is before the public in every book-store, in every circulating library, and little can be said of it beyond an expression of unmingled contempt. It is so essentially evil in every unmingled word no words can match it. Such an unmingled word of abomination is it, except Mr. Bulwer's elegance of composition, that criticism cannot descend to it.'

Another writer, speaking of Bulwer's writings, says: 'Bulwer's works, in character and sentiment, are slightly elevated above those of the French school; while their moral or rather imitating tendency is far more deleterious. Notwithstanding the infidel, licentious principles avowed on almost every page, the gloss, and the finish, and fascination of the author's style, and the popularity of a circulation far exceeding that of the former class.' These extracts show conclusively, to my mind, that the alarm is not premature, when the dear youth of our country are warned against their destructive influence giving up all claim to the character of a philanthropist, a patriot, or a Christian."

From the Liberator.

Mrs. LOVEJOY. It gives us pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of five dollars from Estlin Moore, of Philadelphia, in aid of the suffering and sorrow-stricken widow of the lamented Lovejoy, in whose behalf a touching appeal has recently been made to the abolitionists of the country by a responsible committee at Cincinnati—an appeal that should be liberally and promptly responded to. In this connection, we must find room for the following tribute, by W. H. Burleigh:

And thou, devoted Wife! who nobly stand With martyr-zeal, and in the strength sublime Of a fond heart, withstood the men of crime Who sought, with fiend-like rage, thy husband's blood—

Bereft of earthly hope, and in the flood Of a dark sorrow overwhelmed, what now For thee remains? Submissively to bow, And own the chastening of a Father's rod! God help thee, broken heart! Thy sacrifice Is mighty, but it shall not be in vain; His blood!—thy tears!—they shall not sink, like rain,

Unnoted to the ground. From Freeman's eyes The scales are falling—and this woe shall be The ransom of a people! Joy, in grief, for thee!

Is it not strange that a Christian nation should have kept up a practice so long which disturbs the public worship of God, brings noise and confusion into villages, where all should be still and need, and in the opinion of almost the entire nation, violates the laws of him, whose blessing is the only source of public prosperity, notwithstanding it was a money-losing practice? Not a mail shall be carried or opened, on the Sabbath.

EVERY THING OUGHT TO BE WELL DONE.—A good man capital things are well done of the late William Gray—a distinguished merchant of Boston—Billy Gray. He left at his death a large estate, and used to say that the chief source of his worldly success, was his motto, "What is worth doing

at all, is worth doing well." On one occasion, he had reason to find fault with a mechanic for some slovenly job. The mechanic recollected that, so he bore the rebuke with impatience. "I tell you what," said he, "Billy Gray, I shan't stand such jaw from you. Why, I recollect when you was nothing but a drummer in a regiment."

"And so I was a drummer—but didn't I drum well—eh! didn't I drum well?"

From the Baptist Record.

I send three for insertion in the Record, the affectionate testimony of two temperance societies of this place, to the worth of our beloved S. Aaron, whose removal from Burlington and from New Jersey, is felt by many to be a loss not easily to be repaired. On the last evening of his residence in this city, he took his leave of the community at a meeting of the Temperance Society, held in the hall of the Lyceum, which was crowded to seats. The impression made was too deep to be effaced here, and will long be remembered by those who heard him. The following resolutions, offered by Eliphalet Bosworth, (the pastor of the Presbyterian congregation) were cordially and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the Rev. Samuel Aaron, in his energetic and persevering efforts, put forth in the most fearless manner, in the behalf of the Temperance cause in this city and vicinity, has won for himself the lasting esteem of his fellow citizens.

Resolved, That while we deeply deplore the recent desires for his removal to a distant residence, we earnestly wish him to remain in our midst, and to continue his efforts for the welfare and prosperity of our community.

At a meeting of the Temperance Society, held on the 13th of the present month, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, every member present rising in token of assent.

Whereas, our fellow member, and late fellow citizen, SAMUEL AARON, was intimately connected with the organization of this Society, and has rendered important aid by his counsel and services in its subsequent operations; and whereas, he is eminent for his self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of his fellow men.

Resolved, That we entertain the sincerest affection for him, personally, and respect for the enlarged philanthropy, and the high moral character which he has consistently maintained, through evil report and through good report; and that while we regret the loss of his valuable services among us, we desire to invest his labors of love in the community among whom he now resides.

Burlington, 5th Mo., 19, 1841.

Slavery.

From the Brit. and For. A. S. Reporter.

Address to the President of the United States.

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have requested Mr. Sturge to present to the President of the United States an address, of which the following is a copy:

Sir,—As the head of a great confederacy of states, justly valuing their free constitution and rights and their character, and tenacious of their British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, through their esteemed conditor and representative, Joseph Sturge, would respectfully approach you in behalf of millions of their fellow-men, held in bondage in the United States.

Those millions are not only denied the political immunities enjoyed by the citizens of your great republic generally, and the equal privileges and the impartial protection of the civil law, but are cease to be regarded and treated, under your commission of crime, when the utmost rigor against them; and are reduced to an enforced condition of "chattel personal" in the hands of their owners and possessors, to all intents, constructions, and purposes whatever."

This is the language and the law of slavery; and upon this law, guarded with jealousy by their political institutions, the slave-holders of But, sir, there are claims anterior to property in man, laws, and superior to all political institutions, which are immutable in their nature—claims of every crime and of every crime—claims of God has conferred, and which man cannot destroy without sacrilege, or infringe without sin.

The monstrous and wicked assumption of power by man over his fellow-man which slavery implies, is alike abhorrent to the moral sense of the righteous laws of God, and to the benevolent principles of the gospel. It is, therefore, of all truly enlightened and civilized communities that over which, sir, it is your honor to preside.

The great doctrine that "God hath created all men equal, and endowed them with certain inalienable rights, and that amongst these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," is affirmed in the theory of your constitutional laws, and justified in a stain upon your glory. Slavery, in its most abject and revolting form, pollutes your songs of liberty, and the clank of their chains is heard in horrid discord with the chorus of your triumphs.

The records of your States are not less distinguished by their wise provisions for securing the order, and maintaining the institutions of your country, than by their ingenious devices for riveting the chains, and perpetuating the degradation of your colored brethren. Their education is branded as a crime against the state; their freedom is degraded as a blighting pestilence; the bare suggestion of their emancipation is proscribed as treason to the cause of American independence.

These things are uttered in sorrow; for the committee deeply deplore the flagrant inconsistency so glaring

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1841.

discussions of the book. Many questions

Biographical.

From a memoir of Rev. John Clay, published in the London Baptist Magazine of April.

Death-bed of a Christian.

During the last few weeks of his pilgrimage he was confined to his room, but happily exempt from pain of body and anxiety of mind. He enjoyed the peace which passeth all understanding, not a cloud was permitted to intervene, and in the exercise of a full hope of immortality, exclaimed—

"Millions of years my wondering eyes
Shall o'er thy beauties rove,
And endless ages I adore
The wonders of thy love."

He was at this time surrounded by his pious family, whose affectionate attention added much to his comfort, so that he was quite overwhelmed by a sense of the divine goodness; under the circumstances he contrasted his death with that of Christ, and said, "How different is my death with that of my Savior! He died on a cross in agony and pain, surrounded by cruel enemies!

"Did Christ my Lord, suffer; and shall I repine?"

When visited by Christian friends he would exhaust the little strength he possessed in speaking of the wonders of redeeming love. The atonement, the righteousness, and intercession of Christ, formed at once the foundation of his hope, the theme of his preaching, and the cause of his triumphs. In reflecting on the transactions of Calvary, he said:

"My soul looks back to see
The burdens thou didst bear
When hanging on the accursed tree
And hopes her guilt was there."

To a friend who called on him he remarked, "God is very gracious to me, in taking down my tabernacle so gently, I am quite free from pain, and though my heart and my flesh fail, God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

To another he said, "I have not followed cunningly devised fables; though I have no raptures, I find peace from the unchanging love of God. I have been meditating on heaven, and how insignificant do make this world appear!" Looking forward to his entrance into the heavenly kingdom he said,

"Welcome sweet hour of full discharge,
Which sets my longing soul at large,
Unbinds my chains, breaks up my cell,
And gives me with my God to dwell."

A person called on him to whom his preaching had been useful, and said, "You, my dear Sir, are my spiritual father." He replied, "The Lord be praised; may we meet again in heaven to part no more. I am lingering on the brink of Jordan, but not afraid to launch away, for in my Father's house are many mansions."

On the last Sabbath in January, he inquired the hour of the day, and being told it was between three and four o'clock, he said, "The time is now assembling round the table of the Lord. This do in remembrance—blessed remembrance of a Savior's love and grace!"

"Lord, at thy table I behold

The wonder of thy grace;

But most of all admire that I

Should find a welcome place!"

To his daughter he said, "Not a cloud, my dear, a calm and serene sky; all is peace within; I can not describe what I feel; my heart overflows with gratitude to the Lord for his mercy to me, a poor, unworthy sinner!" he added, "All is calm and smooth, not a wave of trouble rolls." Thus his friends were favored with an opportunity of marking the perfect and upright man, and of witnessing that the end of such a man is peace. He fully realized the language of the poet, who he repeated with quivering lips and triumphant faith, saying,

"Joyful, with all the strength I have
My quivering lip shall sing—
Where is thy boasted victory, grave?
And where the monster's sting?"

He continued sensible to the last, and to converse with those around him, until about an hour before his redeemed spirit took its flight, to join the multitude which no man can number before the throne of God and the Lamb, which took place January 25, in the 71st year of his age.

For the Christian Reflector.

Tribute to eminent Worth and Genius.
Mr. Editor:—I take a mournful pleasure in calling your attention, and that of your readers, to the following article. In such a world as this, amid the conflicts to which we are subject, and especially in the warfare against slavery, it is inexpressibly soothing and refreshing to look forward to a happy and peaceful death, such a death as is described in this extract.

It is copied from the Boston Times of June 5th, and is an abstract of a review by Washington Irving of the life and writings of the youthful poetess whose name is inserted below. I envy not the mind that can contemplate without tears scenes as are herein described. O, that you and I, dear reader, may be as willing and prepared to die as was MARGARET MILLER DAVIDSON. C. W. D.

"When disease strikes down the young and the beautiful in the glad springtime of their being, before experience of the vexations and miseries of life has at all weakened them from the world, we feel a sadness of heart which no paltry and affective stoicism can suffice; when in addition to this, the remorseless death angel flaps his broad wings over the frail clay tenement which holds the rich treasure of young genius, whose maturity promises to bless the world, and breaks the chord which unites it to its earthly habitation, we experience a far more melancholy sensation than this loss of mere youth and beauty can excite. If from the intellectual store-house, where are garnered up the fruits of centuries of mental labor, a single noble and soul-inspiring thought were withdrawn and destroyed, every reflecting mind would feel and deplore the loss, but how immeasurably greater is that calamity which deprives us of a gifted and pure spirit, containing within itself the power to add thought after thought to the intellectual treasures of the world. It is this fact which throws so much interest over the lives of the precocious children of genius, and which made the name of Lucretia Maria Davidson, the elder sister of the subject of the present Memoir, cross the Atlantic, and excite sympathy in many minds who never before had spoken of American poetry with contempt. In view of this, we should sincerely pity the person who could read without emotion the simple, beautiful, and touching narrative of Margaret Davidson, as it flows from the matchless pen of Washington Irving. It is a peculiarity in the writings of Mr. Irving that they not only excite in us admiration for the author, but affection for the could bear without sorrow that a misfortune had befallen him. In an age when criticism has been uncommonly severe, and critics have not hesitated to view authors through the mists of political, national, or theological prejudices, Mr. Irving has ever been mentioned with esteem, and criticized with justice. Americans feel that his reputation is strongly interwoven with the literature of their country, and no American author ever crossed the Atlantic who was better calculated to dissipate ignorant prejudices, and raise our name in the estimation of the world. Though he has produced many works of high artistic merit, we are aware of none which shows more goodness of heart, than the biography he has prefixed to the remains of

Margaret Davidson. It is delightful to see the records of a gifted and youthful mind, ushered into the literary world by a veteran in letters, whose opinion on subjects of taste is an authority.

It is a very singular circumstance that one family should be able to boast of two such specimens of precocious genius as Lucretia Maria and Margaret Miller Davidson. We believe that literary history furnishes no parallel to it. The elder sister prematurely died when Margaret was but two years and a half old, but, as her mother finely observed, "on ascending to the skies it seemed as if her poetic mantle fell, like a robe of light, on her infant sister."

Margaret "lisp'd in numbers." When affected, her thoughts seemed to flow naturally, into rhyme. Endowed by nature with acute sensibilities, a fresh, warm, and affectionate heart, an imagination singularly chaste, teeming with images, and coloring with its own rich hues everything she saw, a judgment mature beyond her years, and an unobscured power of language, she seemed a young muse dropped from the skies. No one can read the book which chronicles the early development and culture of her mind, without feeling that there is in it the religion of the purest kind. It contains as strong an argument for the immortality of the soul as human reason and human affection can furnish. The mind absolutely revolts from the idea, that a beautiful spirit, gifted with the fruit of a period of spiritual flutter and sang for so brief a period, should have lived to the age of Wordsworth, with 'impressions of immortality' in the recollections of childhood, might not have written!—'Heaven lay around her in her infancy! Bright and joyous, and pure; with a heart open to all sweet impressions, and obstacles shut out nothing but evil; with a mind active, keen, and imaginative; taking a rapturous delight in the 'beautiful things that God had made for her; looking every thing through the medium of a poetic sensibility, which accommodated the shows of things to the desires of her mind; and induced her, when less than three years old, to believe that God would make her wings to fly to her departed sister, and which made her see, when only four years old, that the stars 'shone like eyes of angels;—her infancy seems to us to have a holiness in it, and every word of the little juvenile poems in which her impressive joys and sympathies gushed forth in rhyme, appears to fall from 'Purity's own cherub lips.'

It was the fortune of Margaret to possess a mother, who though she suffered much from sickness, still attended herself to the education of her daughter, and watched her with more than a parent's care. Under such tuition the little poet passed her brief life. So ardent was her thirst for knowledge that it had constantly to be checked, as its gratification often brought her to the bed of sickness. Yet her requirements were uncommonly great, and her reading extensive. At the age of six she would make impromptu verses when any passing event strongly affected her mind; and when only eight years old she wrote little poems which would do no discredit to a bard of thirty. These productions not only manifest delicacy of observation, and poetic feeling, but they are written in good taste, and never offend by untidiness either of thought or style and are altogether free from pathos. Her conversation is represented to have been very brilliant. Her wit and inventive powers were uncommonly active, and she would tell stories, each of some hours' length, without being at a loss either for words, illustrations, or incidents. She was the universal favorite wherever she went, for her sweetness of disposition matched her rare talents. From a little piece to her brother, written when she was but eight years old, we extract the following fine stanza, and which we have her power over language, the easiness with which she versified, and her command of imagery.

"Yon islands see I so fair and bright,
Like gems upon the azure sea;
The waters dance like forms of light,
And wait my brother dear to me."

She composed at the age of ten the following beautiful lines on leaving the house of her infancy:

"That dear old home, where passed my childish years,
When fond affection wiped my infant tears!
Where first I learn'd from whence my blessings came,
And hither, in faltering tones, a mother's name!"

That dear old home, where memory fondly clings,
Where eager fancy spreads her soaring wings;
Around whose scenes my thoughts delight to stray,
And pass the hours in pleasing dreams away!

Oh, shall I ne'er behold the waves again,
My native lake, my beautiful Champlain?
Shall I no more above thy ripples bend,
In sweet communion with my childhood's friend?

Shall I no more behold thy rolling wave,
The patriot's cradle, and the warrior's grave?
Thy mountains, tinged with daylight's parting glow?
Thy islets, mirror'd in the stream below?

Back! back!—thou present, robed in shadows lie,
And rise, thou past, before my raptur'd eye!
Fancy shall gild the frowning lapse between;
And memory's hand shall paint the glowing scene!

Lo! how the view beneath her pencil grows!
The flower buds bloom, the winding streamlets flow;
With former friends I trace my footsteps o'er,
And muse, delighted, on my own green shore!

Alas! it fades—the fairy dream is past!
Dissolved the veil by sportive fancy cast.
Oh why should thou our brightest dreams depart,
And scenes illusive cheat the longing heart?

Where'er through future life my steps may roam,
I ne'er shall find a spot like thee, my home;
With all my joys the thought of thee shall blend,
And join'd with thee, shall rise my childhood's friend.

If our limits would permit we should like to make more extended extracts both from her early and late poems; but we forbear.

The most deeply interesting portion of Mr. Irving's sketch is that in which the last illness and death of the gifted child are described.—"The rupture of the heart, which had long been the subject of the present Memoir, crossed the Atlantic, and excite sympathy in many minds who never before had spoken of American poetry with contempt. In view of this, we should sincerely pity the person who could read without emotion the simple, beautiful, and touching narrative of Margaret Davidson, as it flows from the matchless pen of Washington Irving. It is a peculiarity in the writings of Mr. Irving that they not only excite in us admiration for the author, but affection for the could bear without sorrow that a misfortune had befallen him. In an age when criticism has been uncommonly severe, and critics have not hesitated to view authors through the mists of political, national, or theological prejudices, Mr. Irving has ever been mentioned with esteem, and criticized with justice. Americans feel that his reputation is strongly interwoven with the literature of their country, and no American author ever crossed the Atlantic who was better calculated to dissipate ignorant prejudices, and raise our name in the estimation of the world. Though he has produced many works of high artistic merit, we are aware of none which shows more goodness of heart, than the biography he has prefixed to the remains of

"The anguish of the mother was still more intense, as she saw her bright and beautiful but perishing child, offering the one sacrifice, snatched away from her. 'My own weak frame,' says she, 'was unable longer to sustain the effects of long watching and deep grief. I had not only lost my lovely boy, but I felt a strong conviction that I must soon resign my Margaret; or rather, that she would soon follow me to a premature grave. Although she still persisted in the belief that she was well, the irritating cough, the hectic flush, (as we mistake for the bloom of health,) the hurried beating of the heart, and the drenching night perspirations confirmed me in this belief, and I sank under this accumulated load of affliction. For three weeks I hovered upon the borders of the grave, and when I arose from this bed of pain—so feeble that I could not sustain my own weight, it was to witness the rupture of a blood vessel in her lungs, caused by exertions to suppress a cough; Oh! it was agony to see her! I was compelled to conceal every appearance of alarm, lest the agitation of her mind should produce fatal consequences.

As I seated myself by her, she raised her speaking eyes to mine with a mournful, inquiring gaze, and as she read the anguish which I could not conceal, she turned away with a look of despair. She spoke not a word, but silence, still, deathlike silence, pervaded the apartment. The best of medical aid was called in, but the physicians gave no hope; they considered it a deep-seated case of pulmonary consumption. All that could be done was to alleviate the symptoms, and protract life as long as possible by lessening the excitement of the system. When Mrs. Davidson returned to the bedside after an interview with the physicians, she was regarded with an anxious, searching look by the lovely little sufferer, but not a question was made. Margaret seemed fearful of receiving a discouraging reply, and lay, all pale, and except when agitated by the cough, striving to calm the tumult of her thoughts, while her mother seated herself by her pillow, trembling with weakness and sorrow. Long and anxious were the days and nights spent in watching over her. Every sudden movement or emotion excited the hemorrhage. 'Not a murmur escaped her lips,' says her mother, 'during her protracted sufferings. How often I would long to have her you rested during the night?' 'Well, dear mamma, I have slept sweetly! I have been night after night beside her restless couch, wiped the cold dew from her brow, and kissed her faded cheek in all the agony of grief, while she unconsciously slept; or if she did awake, her heavenly smile, and her words, 'I am again an infant, my heart was full; when I could speak, I said, 'my love, I feel that I am indeed gathering a little family in heaven to bid me welcome, but when they are all assembled there how dreadful to doubt whether I may ever be permitted to join the circle!'

"Oh hush, dear mother, do not indulge in such thoughts; the fact of your having trained this little heart to such thoughts, is sufficient evidence to that you will not fail to join us there. I was with her myself that night, and a friend in the neighborhood sat up also. On Saturday morning, after I had taken an hour's sleep, I found her quiet as a sleeping infant. I prepared her some food, and when I awoke her to take it, she said, 'dear mother, I will try if it is only to please you. I feel as if I would have fed a babe. She smiled sweetly as she said, 'Mother, I am again an infant.' I asked if I should read to her, she said yes, she would like to have me read a part of the gospel of John. I did so, and then said 'my dear Margaret, you look sweetly composed this morning. I trust all is peace within your heart.' 'Yes mother, all is peace, sweet peace. I feel that I can do nothing for myself. I was cast my burden upon Christ.' I asked if she could rest her hopes there in confidence. 'Yes,' she replied, 'Jesus will not fail me. I can trust in him.' She then sank into a deep sleep, and on the preceding day, in the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. H. came from Ballston, they were much affected by the change a few days had made in her appearance. I woke her, fearing she might sleep too long; and said her friends had come. She extended her arms to them both, and kissed them, saying to Mr. H. that he found her a late riser, and then sank to sleep again. Mrs. H. remained with us that night. About sunset I spoke to her. She awoke and answered me cheerfully, but observing that I was unusually depressed, she said, 'Dear mother, I am wearing you out. I replied, 'My child, my beloved child, it is not that. The last few days have been very anxious for me. I never shall forget the expression on her sweet face, as she replied, 'Mother, my own dear mother, do not grieve. Our parting will not be long. In life we were inseparable, and I feel that you cannot live without me. You will soon join me, and we shall part no more.' I kissed her pale cheek as I bent over her, and finding my agitation too strong to repress, I left her room. She soon after awoke, and she said she must have a cooling drink, and she could bear it better in the chair. When there she began to cough, and her distress was beyond description; her strength was soon exhausted, and we again carried her to the bed. She coughed from six until half past ten. I then prevailed on her to take some nutritious drink, and she fell asleep. My husband and Mrs. H. came in, both of them anxious that I should retire and get some rest, but I did not feel the need of it, and I pressed as I was with the idea that this was the last night she would rest on earth, could not go to bed. But others saw not the danger, and I went in, and she said she must have a cooling drink, and she could bear it better in the chair. 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